

BOOKS TO READ TO YOUR CLASS

If you go to your local library to find books to read to your class, here are a few tips about good authors and a selection of books that have been a success.

Verna Aardema: 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain' is African with good rhymes

Giles Andreae: 'Pants', 'Rumble in the Jungle', 'Giraffes Can't Dance' and many other well illustrated books

Edward Ardizzone: 'Little Tim and the Brave Sea Captain' for 7-8 yrs.

Rev. W. Awdry: 'Thomas and Friends' much beloved of most little boys.

Graeme Base - his books are beautifully illustrated and include 'Animalia', 'The Water Hole' 4-6yrs, 'Jungle Drums', and 'Uno's Garden'.

Michael Bond - 'Paddington Bear'

Ludwig Bemelmans is well-known for his series of books about 'Madeline' - much enjoyed by little girls.

Benedict Blathwayt has written a series of books 'Adventures of the Little Red Train' much enjoyed by little boys.

John Burningham has written many popular books including 'The Magic Bed' and 'Mr Gumpy's Outing'.

Rod Campbell: 'Dear Zoo'

Eric Carle - 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'The Very Busy Spider' are just two of many books he has written.

Doreen Cronin has written some funny stories including 'Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type', 'Giggle, Giggle, Quack' and 'Vote for Duck'.

Roald Dahl is VERY well known, children love his books which are readily available. I suggest that you look for ones that have colour illustrations for children up to at least 7/8 years of age.

Lynley Dodd has written a series of books about 'Slinky Malinki', a very naughty black cat and the dog 'Hairy McIlairy' for 3-4 yrs. 'Rumpus at the Vet' with CD is fun.

Julia Donaldson's 'The Snail and the Whale', 'Sharing a Shell'. 'Tiddler', 'The Gruffalo', 'Room on the Broom' are all favourites but there are many more. Have a look at 'Follow the Swallow' and 'Toddle Waddle'.

Babette Cole: 'The Trouble with Mum' ...and Dad'....and Grandad'....and Gran', 'The Bad Good Manners Book', 'Dr Dog', 'Hair in Funny Places', 'Princess Smartypants', 'Mummy Laid an Egg', 'Prince Cinders', 'Truelove' and others.

Emily Gravett 'Meercat Mail' is a lovely book for 6-8 yrs.

Martin Handford's 'Where's Wally' collection of books for 5-7 yrs.

Shirley Hughes has written a series of books about an endearing little boy called Alfie. 'Alfie Gets in First'. Another popular title is 'Dogger'.

Simon James has written many charming books. 'Sally and the Limpet' is a delightful tale with a strong ecological message. Look out for 'Dear Mr Blueberry', 'My Friend Whale', 'Jake and the Babysitter' and 'Jake and His Cousin Sydney'.

Sam McBratney 'Guess How Much I Love You', 'I'll Always be Your Friend' and 'Yes We Can!' are feel good books and just three of many books he has written.

A A Milne The 'Winnie the Pooh' books

Tony Mitton 'All Afloat on Noah's Boat' a great favourite

Jill Murphy – 'Five Minutes' Peace', 'A Quiet Night In'.

Beatrix Potter 'Peter Rabbit' and all his friends.

Lucy Richards has written 'The Magic Sky' about the Northern Lights with a lovely double page of a colourful glitter rainbow.

Michael Rosen's 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' (+CD).

Tony Ross: 'Daft Bat'.

Dr Seuss - start with an easy book like 'Hop on Pop', later 'The Lorax' (about the environment). The rhyming way the books are written is helpful especially when the children are learning to read.

Maurice Sendak is well known for 'Where the Wild Things Are' about likeable monsters.

Jacqui Taylor books 'An African ABC' and 'A Boabab is Big' are beautifully illustrated.

Ian Whybrow - The series about a little boy called Harry including 'Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs' is outstanding. Reading 'Harry and the Dinosaurs Go Wild' will teach the children what an endangered species is in a few minutes. Another of his books 'The Bedtime Bear' is a great favourite.

PUBLISHERS

There are many good publishing houses producing children's books. Look out for DK Books they have a very high standard. I want to mention a few others that are very reliable - Walker Books, Puffin Books, Oxford University Press, Red Fox, Usborne, MacMillan Children's Books, HarperCollins, Priddy Books, Heinemann, Scholastic and in South Africa Struik and Tafelberg, Vivlia and again the list is endless.